

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66612
DRAFTED BY: ARA/ECP: MDAVILA:SLW
APPROVED BY: ARA/ECP: JO'MAHONY
----- 084307

R 162313Z JUL 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT OECD PARIS 17863 ACTION SECSTATE INFO EC BRUSSELS
USUN GENEVA VIENNA BRUSSELS OTTAWA COPENHAGEN HELSINKI BONN ATHENS
REYKJAVIK DUBLIN ROME TOKYO LUXEMBOURG THE HAGUE OSLO MADRID STOCK-
HOLM BERN ANKARA LONDON CANBERRA WELLINGTON AND LISBON 10 JUL 75

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OECD PARIS 17863

PASS AID AND TREASURY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, OECD, EFIN
SUBJECT: JULY 7-8 MEETING OF AD HOC HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON
MEMBER/LDC ECONOMIC RELATIONS

1. SUMMARY: DELEGATES REVIEWED THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARD
WIDE RANGE OF CONSTRUCTIVE MEASURES WHICH COULD BE TAKEN
OR WERE UNDER CONSIDERATION IN AREAS OF FOOD AND AND AGRI-
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, MARKET ACCESS FOR LDC MANUFACTURED
GOODS, TRANSFER OF RESOURCES, AND INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNO-
LOGICAL COOPERATION. IN SUMMING UP, CHAIRMAN (ROBERT,
FRG) TRIED TO HIGHLIGHT WHERE MOST MEMBERS SHARED POSI-
TIVE ATTITUDES. ROBERT SUGGESTED THAT PRIORITY BE GIVEN
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TO INCREASING AID TO AGRICULTURE, LARTICULARLY THROUGH
IFAD; IMPROVEMENT OF GSP (AT LEAST BY THOSE WITH EXPERI-
ENCE UNDER NATIONAL SYSTEMS); 5TH IDA REPLENISHMENT, AND
INCREASED CONSULTATION WITH LDC'S ON INDUSTRIAL AND

TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION, NOTING THAT LAST OF THESE WAS AREA WHERE MOST WORK NEEDED TO BE DONE TO FLESH OUT POSSIBILITIES. HE ALSO GAVE CONSIDERABLE STRESS TO A TRUST FUND UNDER THE IMF. COMMODITIES AREA WAS LEFT FOR DISCUSSION BY OECD HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON COMMODITIES. THERE WAS, HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF EXPORT EARNINGS STABILIZATION UNDER FINANCING PROPOSALS. DISCUSSION REVEALED THAT EC MEMBERS OPPOSE A GLOBALIZATION OF THE LOME-STABEX ARRANGEMENT. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT FOR AN EXPANDED IMF COMPENSATORY FINANCING FACILITY. FRENCH AND BELGIANS WERE SQUEAMISH AS TO WHETHER OR NOT INTEREST OF GERMANS, U.S. AND OTHERS IN EARNINGS STABILIZATION WAS A DODGE TO AVOID ACTION ON PRICE STABILIZATION, I.E., COMMODITY NEGOTIATIONS. WE WILL HAVE TO PLAY THIS CAREFULLY IF XCSS ON JULY 18 TAKES UP EARNINGS STABILIZATION. CHAIRMAN EXPECTS TO DISTRIBUTE FIRST DRAFT OF GROUPS PRELIMINARY REPORT ON JULY 17 OR 18 BUT WILL MAKE ONLY ORAL REPORT TO XCSS JULY 18. GROUP WILL MEET AGAIN TO FINALIZE REPORT JULY 29-30. END SUMMARY.

2. GENERAL DEBATE: GROUP'S GENERAL COMMENTS ON SECRETARIAT PAPER CE/DG(75)3 CONCENTRATED ON ISSUES OF DIFFERENTIATION AMONG LDC'S AND SELECTION OF PRIORITIES. WITH RESPECT TO FORMER, FRANCE, AUSTRALIA AND TURKEY TOOK VIEW THAT SELECTING POOREST FOR ASSISTANCE EMPHASIS WAS EITHER DIFFICULT OR POLITICALLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE, WHILE REST GENERALLY THOUGHT DIFFERENTIATED APPROACH IN VARIOUS AREAS WAS ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF A CONSTRUCTIVE RESPONSE TO DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS WHICH VARIED GREATLY AMONG LDC'S. CHAIRMAN'S READING OF CONSENSUS WAS THAT FACT OF LDC POLITICAL UNITY COULD BE ACCEPTED AT SAME TIME THAT DC'S APPROACH WAS TAILED TO DIFFERING NEEDS OF PARTICULAR LDC'S. SEVERAL COUNTRIES PROPOSED ADDITION OF MEASURES IN AGRICULTURAL AREA AND OF EXPORT EARNINGS STABILIZATION TO RPIORITY LIST AT END OF PAPER. CONSENSUS APPEARED TO BE THAT PROGRESS WAS NEEDED ON BROAD FRONT, BUT THAT AREAS OF GENERALY COMMON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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OECD EMPHASIS SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED.

3. FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT: THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT AMONG ALL DELS THAT THIS WAS A PRIORITY AREA FOR POSITIVE AND CONCRETE ACTION: 10 MILLION TON ANNUAL FOOD AID TARGET RECEIVED WIDE SUPPORT. U.S. STRESSED NEGOTIATION OF INTERNATIONAL GRAINS RESERVE SYSTEM IN INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL, NOT WAITING FOR MTN. FURTHER EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE RESERVE SYSTEM RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM DUTCH DEL, WHO ALSO CALLED FOR AGREEMENTS ON MINIMUM PRICES AND USE OF PRODUCTION SURPLUSES, AND ALSO FROM JAPAN, FRG, CANADA, AND ITALY. FRENCH DEL,

HOWEVER, FELT THAT STOCKPILES ALONE WOULD NOT IMPROVE WORLD FOOD SECURITY AND CALLED FOR ACTION TO STABILIZE FOOD PRICES. AUSTRALIAN DEL WAS ALSO NEGATIVE RE ACTION ON FOOD STOCKPILING ALONE. US DEL (BOEKER) AND DUTCH DEL FELT STOCKPILES SHOULD BE KEPT PRIMARILY IN DC FOOD-PRODUCING COUNTRIES, WHEREAS OTHER DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING CANADA, GEROANY, AND SWEDEN, SUPPORTED ASSISTING LDC'S (THROUGH FAO) TO BUILD AND HOLD THEIR OWN STOCKPILES, ESPECIALLY FOR EMERGENCY USE. THERE WAS WIDE AGREEMENT THAT MORE ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARD INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION IN LDC'S, ALTHOUGH A NUMBER OF MEMBERS PREFERRED NOT TO BE TIED TO COMMITMENT TO ACTUALLY DOUBLE SUCH ASSISTANCE, AS SUGGESTED BY DAC CHAIRMAN. MOST DELEGATES SUPPORTED THE IFAD AS VEHICLE FOR ATTRACTING ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURE, ALTHOUGH WHEN CHAIRMAN ATTEMPTED TO CONCLUDE THAT THERE WAS GENERAL SUPPORT FOR FUND, FRANCE AND BELGIUM OBJECTED. CHAIRMAN ALSO CONCLUDED THAT MAJORITY OF FUNDS PLEDGED TO IFAD SHOULD BE DISBURSED THROUGH EXISTING CHANNELS AND THAT ONLY LIMITED AMOUNT OF FUNDS SHOULD BE DIRECTLY HANDLED BY FUND ITSELF, TO WHICH SWEDEN DISAGREED. US SUGGESTED THAT SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINED FOOD AID CONTRIBUTIONS AND INCREASED AID TO AGRICULTURAL SECTOR BE LINKED TO SUPPORT FOR CGFPI, WHICH WILL BE VEHICLE FOR ELICITING DESIRED AGRO-POLICY CHANGES FROM LDC'S. MANY AGREED, AND SWEDEN DEMURED. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY NOTED PRIORITY ACCORDED TO FOOD AND AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AREA BY GROUP AND POINTED OUT EMPHASIS ON: (A) SUSTAINING FOOD AID; (B) INCREASING FOOD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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SECURITY THROUGH STOCKPILING (INCLUDING LDC STOCKS) AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEM; (C) INCREASING ASSISTANCE FOR LDC FOOD PRODUCTION WITH SUPPORT FOR CGFPI, AND ESPECIALLY FOR IFAD.

4. MARKET ACCESS FOR LDC MANUFACTURED GOODS: ALL DELS TOOK GENERALLY POSITIVE APPROACH TO IDEA THAT BETTER MARKETACCESS AND COOPERATION WITH LDC'S IN MTN WAS GOOD POTENTIAL AREA FOR IMPROVING DC/LDC RELATIONS. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM, HOWEVER, ESPECIALLY ON PART OF FRENCH AND UK, THAT GROUP COULD DO ANY USEFUL WORK IN THIS AREA GIVEN THE NEED TO AVOID COMPLICATING OR CONFUSING ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA. IMPROVEMENT OF GSP WAS GENERALLY AGREED TO BE DESIRABLE OBJECTIVE (TURKS TOOK USUAL POTSHOT AT US RE "NON-ECONOMIC" CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF BENEFICIARIES), AND THIS WAS ONE OF AREAS INCLUDED BY CHAIRMAN IN LIST OF PRIORITIES FOR FOLLOW-UP. FULL RECOGNITION WAS GIVEN IN MEETING THAT US NOT IN POSITION TO CONSIDER THIS AT PRESENT. GROUP MAY SUGGEST TCWP GROUP ON PREFERENCE EXAMINE

ISSUE. US DEL INDICATED POSSIBLE INTEREST IN IDEA OF STRENGTHENED STANDSTILL COUPLED WITH PARALLEL COMMITMENTS FROM MORE ADVANCED LDC'S AND EXPRESSED US RESERVATIONS ON ASSUMPTIONS UNDERLYING SECRETARIAT'S PROPOSALS IN TEXTILE FIELD. SUBJECT OF "PARALLEL COMMITMENTS" AND HOW LDC'S SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO MTN WAS GENERALLY THOUGHT WORTH POSSIBLE FURTHER EXAMINATION AT LATER STAGE. CHAIRMAN FELT GROUP SHOULD CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF THIS AREA IN ORDER TO TRY TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE "IMPULSES" IT MIGHT GIVE TO MTN. SECRETARIAT WILL TRY TO CATALOG BENEFITS TO LDC'S FROM MTN.

5. TRANSFER OF RESOURCES: NECESSITY OF EXPANDING VOLUME OF ODA, RECOGNIZED AS BEST MEANS TO TRANSFER RESOURCES TO LDC'S, WAS EMPHASIZED BY MANY DELEGATES. THERE WAS LONG DISCUSSION OF UTILITY OF VOLUME TARGETS WITH MAJORITY IN FAVOR OF REAFFIRMING 0.7 PERCENT TARGET. US DEL EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH ATTEMPTS TO SET TARGETS, SUCH AS 6 PERCENT GROWTH FOR ALL LDC'S AND 0.7 PERCENT GNP FOR AID, WHICH HAD PRACTICALLY NO CHANCE OF BEING ATTAINED AND CONCENTRATED LDC ATTENTION ON DONOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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COUNTRY SHORTCOMINGS. BOEKER SAID US PREFERRED APPROACH OF LAYING STRESS ON STEP-BY-STEP FORWARD PROGRESS IN SPECIFIC AREAS, RATHER THAN REAFFIRMATION OF TARGETS. CANADA WELCOMED STATEMENT AS REFLECTING POSITIVE US ATTITUDE, WHEREAS SWEDEN AND NORWAY EXPRESSED CONCERN. GERMANY WAS ONLY OTHER DELEGATION WHICH PREFERRED TO NOT EMPHASIZE TARGETING. THERE WAS CONSENSUS, HOWEVER, THAT AID PERFORMANCE WAS WHAT REALLY MATTERED. MAJORITY OF DELEGATES MENTIONED NECESSITY OF CONCENTRATING AID ON POOREST, MOST-SERIOUSLY-AFFECTED LDI'S WHEREAS FRANCE, AUSTRALIA AND SWEDEN AGAIN EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS TO THIS PRINCIPLE. DELEGATES AGAIN REVIEWED THEIR POSITIONS IN SUPPORT OF VARIOUS PROPOSED MULTILATERAL FUNDS. PRIMARY IMPORTANCE OF IDA V WAS EMPHASIZED BY MAN DELS, INCLUDING U.S. FRANCE REACTED TO CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT THAT THERE WAS WIDE SUPPORT FOR IMF TRUST FUND BY SAYING ITS POSITION DEPENDED ON AGREEMENT ON IMF GOLD. THERE WERE WARNINGS VOICED RE PROLIFERATION OF RELATIVELY SMALL MULTILATERAL FUNDS. U.S. DEL SAW THIRD WINDOW AS EVENTUALLY BEING CONSOLIDATED WITH IDA AND IMF SUBSIDY ACCOUNT WITH TRUST FUND.

6. EXPORT RECEIPTS STABILIZATION: CANADA, GERMANY, NORWAY, SWEDEN, NETHERLANDS, AND UK SUGGESTED AT BEGINNING OF MEETING THAT CONSIDERATION OF EXPORT RECEIPTS STABILIZATION SCHEMES SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN PRIORITY WORK PROGRAM OF GROUP. U.S. DEL INDICATED SUPPORT FOR LIBER-

ALIZATION OF IMF COMPENSATORY FINANCING FACILITY, SAYING THIS WAS ONE AREA WHERE SOME AUTOMATICITY IN FINANCING MIGHT BE JUSTIFIED ON DEVELOPMENT GROUNDS. CANADIANS AND DUTCH SUPPORTED THIS, WITH DUTCH REMARKING HOWEVER THAT INCREASED PRICES FOR COMMODITIES, TO EFFECT LARGER RESOURCE TRANSFER, SHOULD BE FIRST PRIORITY. BELGIUM, AUSTRALIA, GERMANY AND NETHERLANDS NOTED THAT LOME-TYPE STABEX ARRANGEMENT COULD NOT BE EXPANDED ON WORLDWIDE BASIS. (FRENCH MADE SAME POINT TO U.S. DEL PRIVATELY.) SEVERAL DELS, HOWEVER, INDICATED SUPPORT FOR EXPANDED FINANCING FOR EARNINGS STABILIZATION THROUGH THE IMF. WHILE NOT DIRECTLY OPPOSING EXPANSION OF IMF FACILITY, FRENCH AND BELGIANS INSISTED SCHEMES OF THIS SORT HAD TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TAKE SECOND PLACE TO ATTEMPTS TO STABILIZE COMMODITY PRICES, WHICH SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN HIGH LEVEL GROUPS ON COMMODITIES. FRENCH TACTICAL GAME IS TO TRY TO PRECLUDE POSITIVE OECD-WIDE POSITION ON EARNINGS STABILIZATION EXCEPT IN THE CONTEXT OF A COMPREHENSIVE COMMODITY PROGRAM STRESSING COMMODITY AGREEMENTS. OTHERS, WISHING TO CONSIDER ISSUE ON ITS OWN MERITS, RAISED IT UNDER MULTILATERAL FINANCING PROPOSAL. AS RESULT OF DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS, CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY MADE ONLY LOW-KEY MENTION OF INTEREST OF SOME DEALS IN INVESTIGATING ISSUE WHICH TENDED TO UNDERSTATE GROUP'S INTEREST IN FURTHER FOLLOW-UP. NORWEGIANS ASKED THAT GROUP'S FINAL

REPORT REFLECT GREATER STRESS ON EARNINGS STABILIZATION AND CHAIRMAN RESPONDED VAGUELY BUT POSITIVELY.

7. U.S. GAVE GENERAL SUPPORT TO CONSIDERATION OF LIMITED STEPS TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO CAPITAL MARKETS FOR BETTER-OFF LDC'S. ONLY CANADA AND SWITZERLAND SUPPORTED LOOKING INTO MULTILATERAL GUARANTEE FUND FOR LDC BORROWING. U.K., SWEDEN AND FRANCE HAD NEGATIVE REACTIONS TO SECRETARIAT'S SUGGESTIONS. GROUP, THEREFORE, LIMITED ITSELF TO NOTING WORK OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ON ISSUE. LIKEWISE, THERE WAS LITTLE SENTIMENT FOR EXPLORING MEASURES TO IMPROVE INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT CLIMATE ALTHOUGH SOME DELS DID FEEL FURTHER EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY LDC-RELATED PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA WOULD BE DESIRABLE. ATTITUDE OF TRADITIONAL CREDITOR COUNTRIES TOWARDS DEBT RESCHEDULING WAS DOMINANT IN GROUP, WHILE MEMBERS APPEARED TO BE WILLING TO DISCUSS WAYS OF STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL SURVEILLANCE AND COOPERATION ON DEBT PROBLEMS. SWEDEN, WITH DUTCH SUPPORT, AGAIN PUSHED FOR MORATORIUM ON ODA DEBT SERVICE DUE FROM MSA'S AND LLDC'S, BUT RECEIVED NO SUPPORT. DELEGATES IN GENERAL SUPPORTED A STRENGTHENED VOICE FOR LDC'S IN IFI'S WHILE AT SAME TIME EXPRESSING CONTINUED ADHERENCE TO PRACTICE OF

LINKING VOTING RIGHTS TO FINANCIAL STRENGTH OF MEMBERS.

8. INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION: SECRETARIAT
AND CHAIRMAN FELT MEMBERS EXHIBITED POSITIVE ATTITUDE
TOWARDS TRYING TO MEET REASONABLE LDC DEMANDS IN THIS
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AREA; HOWEVER, IT WAS NOTED THAT WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES
TREATED IN SECRETARIAT PAPER WAS DIFFICULT AND THAT MUCH
MORE WORK WOULD BE NEEDED TO SPECIFY NEW ACTIONS MEMBERS
MIGHT CONSIDER. GERMAN DEL GENERALLY SUPPORTED IDEAS
IN SECRETARIAT PAPER, AND EC DEL MADE PITCH FOR REIN-
FORCING INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION WITH LDC'S, AS AT LAST
MEETING. JAPAN AND FRANCE CALLED FOR FURTHER STUDY, AND
CANADIAN DEL NOTED NEGATIVE REACTION OF OTTAWA TO MANY
IDEAS IN SECRETARIAT'S PAPER. LIMITED CAPACITY OF
GOVERNMENTS TO EFFECT CHANGES IN TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY
IN HANDS OF PRIVATE SECTOR (CONTRARY TO LDC ASSUMPTIONS)
WAS NOTED. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY TENDED TO GIVE MORE
EMPHASIS TO FOLLOW-UP WORK BY GROUP IN THIS AREA THAN WAS
JUSTIFIED IN VIEW OF LIMITED DISCUSSION BY GROUP AND
DIFFICULTY DELEGATES HAD IN TRYING TO BE MORE SPECIFIC.
ROBERT ALSO TENDED TO OVERSTATE CASE FOR POSITIVE
ATTITUDE TOWARD DISCUSSION OF LIMA DECLARATION, EAGERNESS
TO WORK ON UNCTAD'S CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TRANSFER OF
TECHNOLOGY (SUPPORTED BY EC AND CANADA ONLY), AND
READINESS OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE STEPS TO AT
LEAST DAMPEN EXPANSION IN INDUSTRIES OF INTEREST TO
LDC'S (MENTIONED ONLY BY GERMANY AND SUPPORTED BY
TURKEY). CHAIRMAN'S CALL FOR FURTHER ATTENTION BY GROUP
TO AREA WAS, HOWEVER, SUPPORTED BY JAPAN.

9. ON JULY 10, SECRETARIAT IS ISSUING COPY OF CHAIRMAN'S
ORAL SUMMARY OF MEETING WHICH AS NOTED ABOVE WAS NOT
FULLY ACCEPTABLE TO ALL MEMBERS. ONLY CHANGE ROBERT AND
COMMITTEE AGREED TO MAKE, HOWEVER, WAS TO SPECIFY -- IN
RESPONSE TO U.S. GRIPE -- THAT CONSIDERATION OF IMPROVE-
MENTS IN GSP SHOULD BE BASED ON ACTUAL EXPERIENCE WITH
REGIONAL AND NATIONAL SYSTEMS (THE U.S. LACKING ANY SUCH
EXPERIENCE). SUMMARY WILL BE FORWARDED SEPTEL. FIRST
DRAFT REPORT OF GROUP, WHICH WILL BUILD ON CHAIRMAN'S
SUMMARY, WILL DESCRIBE LDC PROBLEMS IN FIVE AREAS
ORIGINALY SELECTED BY GROUP, OUTLINE MEMBERS' ATTITUDES
ON MEASURES DEALING WITH THEM AND INDICATE WHERE PRIORITY
ATTENTION SHOULD BE DIRECTED. THIS DRAFT REPORT IS
SCHEDEDULED TO BE CIRCULATED ON JULY 17TH OR 18TH AND
FINALIZED BY GROUP JULY 29-30. IT IS, THEREFORE,
UNLIKELY THAT THIS SECRETARIAT DRAFT WILL BE AVAILABLE
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FOR CONSIDERATION BY XCSS ON JULY 18. ROBERT, HOWEVER,
WILL MAKE ORAL REPORT TO XCSS BASED ON HIS SUMMING-UP
IN NORTH-SOUTH GROUP.

TURNER

UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greenet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE167840
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ARA/ECP: MDAVILA:SLW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750246-1089
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197507105/baaaaplz.tel
Line Count: 335
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greenet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by greenet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, MX, OECD
To: MEXICO
BRASILIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006